





# Weekly Review

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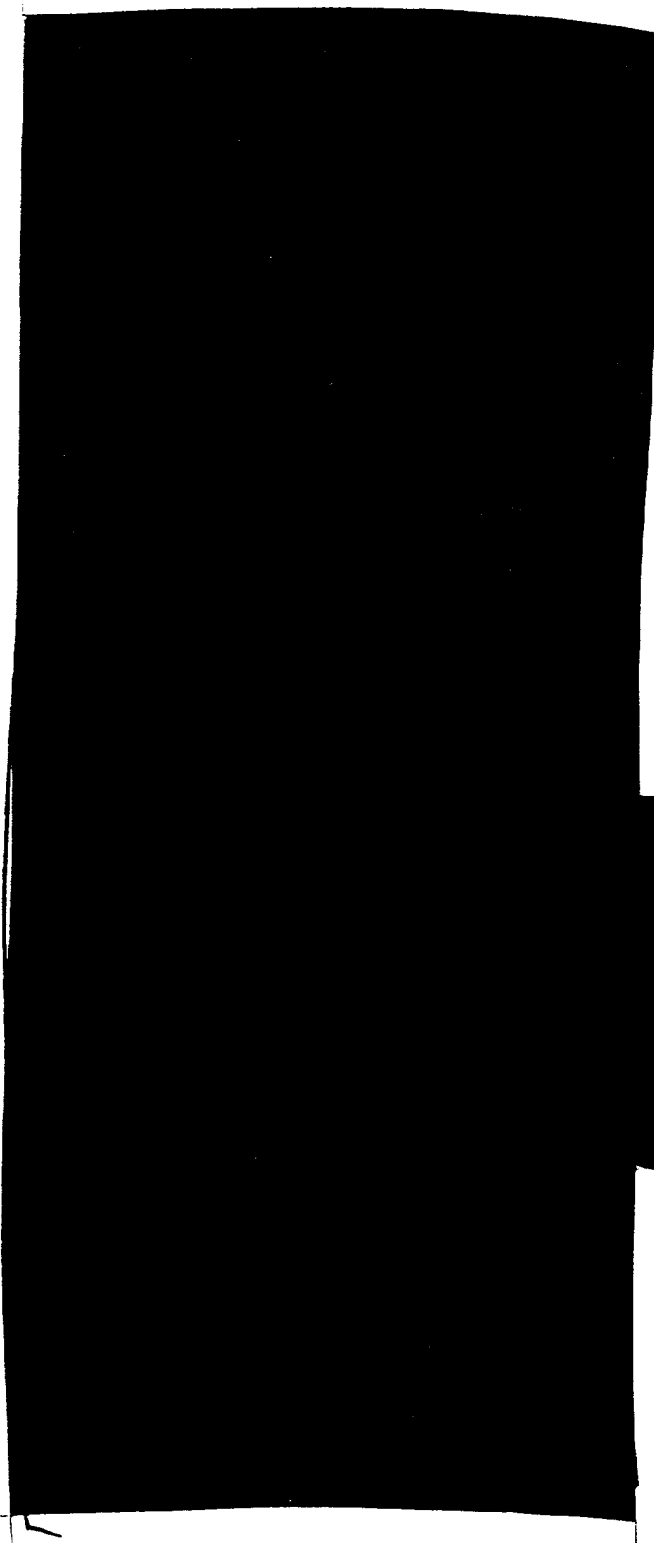
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## ANGOLA

### New Cease-fire



After almost two weeks of fighting in Luanda and the countryside, the National Front for the Liberation of Angola and the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola agreed this week to another cease-fire. The new agreement will probably be no more effective than earlier ones as the two groups struggle to be in control of Angola when it gains independence next November.

The Popular Movement now enjoys military dominance in the capital. The Front has only several hundred troops barricaded in an industrial complex just north of the city. Under the terms of the cease-fire, these troops will be allowed to remain there.

The National Front apparently has not abandoned the idea of fighting its way back into the city. A relief force that moved down from the Front's tribal stronghold in the north has skirmished with Popular Movement troops at Caxito, some 40 miles northeast of Luanda.



### Front Regroups

The setbacks suffered by the Front prompted its leader, Holden Roberto, to make a quick tour recently of its facilities in northern Angola. His visit—his first inside Angola since the insurgency against the Portuguese broke out more than a decade ago—was obviously designed to boost sagging morale. Roberto is apparently now back in Zaire, but may return to Angola in the near future.

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The Front's defeats in recent months have been partly because of its inability to match the arms and equipment being supplied to its adversary by the Soviet Union. Belatedly, the Front is now receiving some additional Chinese and other equipment from stocks held by the Zairian army. Peking recently authorized Zaire to release the equipment. So far, however, Zaire apparently has passed on only modest quantities of small arms and ammunition, and perhaps some transport vehicles.

#### An Open Soviet Role

Recent substantial Soviet arms deliveries to the Popular Movement and harsher press treatment of the rival National Front indicate that Moscow is playing a more open role in its support of the Popular Movement.

Military shipments since May have reportedly included trucks, various armored vehicles, artillery, grenades, machine guns, and small arms. The Soviets are also continuing to train substantial numbers of officers and troops of the Popular Movement in the USSR and the Congo. A few Angolans have been sent to East Germany to be trained in intelligence and security subjects.

Moscow and its East European allies are rumored to have made some direct arms shipments to the Popular Movement in Angola, but the Congo is the main conduit for Soviet arms. Early this month, Popular Movement leader Neto reportedly flew to Brazzaville to urge the Congolese to speed up the flow of Soviet weapons. The Congolese had apparently been slowing down shipments because they were uneasy about the possibility of civil war in Angola.

The Soviet press has consistently accorded special praise to the Popular Movement, but until recently it avoided direct attacks on the National Front and Angola's smallest group, the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola. In the wake of the recent fighting in Luanda, however, the press has charged that the National Front is a client of China and the US,



Holden Roberto

and has labeled it a "reactionary organization" whose members are responsible for the death of hundreds of people.

Moscow probably still has not written off the prospect of a coalition government in Angola. With the Popular Movement now having a clear military advantage, however, the Soviets appear to expect that the Movement will have the dominant role following independence.

#### No Solution in Sight

The transitional government has virtually ceased to function. The Front has not yet announced a replacement for Johnny Eduardo Pinnock, its chief representative to the transitional government, who resigned last week and fled to Zaire.

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